

"W.J. MATTHEW DIES WHILE ABOARD YACHT" (NO OTHER INFO) 1930

DIED AT THE AGE OF 74 - HAD MADE MIAMI HIS WINTER HOME SINCE 1902 AND LEGAL RESIDENCE SINCE 1925 ...

1904 STARTED DEVELOP. ON KEY BISCAYNE ...

INDUSTRIAL CHEMIST WHO EXPERIMENTED WITH COALTAR DIES ... ONE OF THE PRIMARY DIE EXPERTS IN THE COUNTRY.

HIS FORTUNE BASED ON HIS SUCCESS IN THE INDUSTRY. IN LATER LIFE WAS ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SEVERAL COMPANIES INCLUDING BANK OF N.Y. & TRUST CO. ...

HAD JUST DONATED MATTHEW HAMMOCK PROPERTY TO DADE CO.

SMILEY, NIXON "PROGRESS TO ERASE ANOTHER LANDMARK." MIAMI HERALD.

Aug. 1968.

W.J. MATTHEW PURCHASED OVER 1,000 ACRES OF KEY BISCAYNE CA. 1908 - WAS COCONUT PLANTATION - <sup>PORTION</sup> DONATED FOR COUNTY PARK (CRANFORD)

~~MADON C. ANDREY - 4060 BATTERSEA RD. 667-2993~~

~~UNIVERSITY JOINS (1ST. WOMAN ARCHITECT IN MIAMI)~~

~~WORKED WITH LEBRON.~~

~~CAME TO MIA IN 1917 -~~

~~WORKED IN PHILADELPHIA BRIEFLY, RETURNED TO.~~

~~MIAMI IN 1919~~

~~UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS~~

~~A NUMBER OF HOUSES IN MIAMI SHORES~~

~~DOOLEY HOUSE 96<sup>TH</sup> ST~~

DEED BK 56, PG 367

... April 19, 1911 .. Wm Deering & wife to  
W.J. Matheson . A PORTION OF SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 SEC 21, T54,  
R 41 - 6 ACRES MORE OR LESS, KNOWN AS LOT F ...  
AND A PORTION OF LOT G.

DEED BK 34, PG 248

... OCTOBER 6, 1906 ... RICHARD CARNEY & WIFE TO  
Wm J. MATHESON ... ALL SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 SEC 21,  
T54, R 41,

[LEGAL LEE? A 11A1 - SEE TRACT IN  
NW 1/4 of SEC 28]

MURDOE COLLECTION -

PHOTOS OF AWAY LODGE CA 1910 - NEWLY CONSTRUCTED.

VILLA SERENA 1911 - SIMILAR PLAN

SAME ARCHITECT?

NAME DEGAIRNO

→ CALL KENNETH DEGAIRNO 444-1559

(HE HAS ALL DEGAIRNO PLANS) → 3721 EL CAMINO 3883 WK. 579-5262

→ DON DEGAIRNO

WAS PROBABLY HIS NEUTHER D ARCHITECT.

1911 CITY DIRECTORY:

DEGAIRNO W.C. 312 1/2 12th [ONLY ARCHITECT LISTED]

1908 C.D

SAME ↑



BK1-238

EWINGTON HEIGHTS

? Wm. J. Watson to Hugh W. Watson WD 5/31/16 Lot E, F, G, H  
[Instrument 132]  
→ NOT FULL PAGE

\* 10/7/19 Wm. J. Watson to Harriett Watson Jones [sic JAMES] WD 4/21/13 Lot F  
10/9/19 " " " WD 4/21/13 Lot G.

### DEED BK107 PG 19

INDEMNITY MADE APRIL 3, 1913 BETWEEN Wm. J. Watson joined  
in his wife Harriett T. Watson ... Harriett P. James, party  
of the second part... For 10 dollars and other valuable  
considerations ... Lots F & G of EWINGTON HEIGHTS ...  
PURCHASED BY Wm. J. Watson FROM KATHERINE<sup>E</sup> FONTER & SUGRANO

→ [SEE DEED BK 31, PG 238] & DEED FROM Wm. J. Watson & WIFE

→ [SEE DEED BK 56, PG 367] AND FROM RICHARD CROSBY & WIFE

→ [SEE DEED BK 34, PG 243]

### DEED BK 31 PG 238

... FEB, 1906, BETWEEN K. E. FONTER & K. E. DE W. FONTER of  
New Jersey) AND Wm. J. Watson of N. J.

LEGAL DESC. A PORTION OF THE SW<sup>1</sup> & SW<sup>1</sup> SEC 21, TOWNSHIP E,  
10 ACRES MORE OR LESS

STORY OF MIAMI

THIS RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE IS KNOWN AS THE FOUR WAY LODGE. IT WAS BUILT CIRCA 1911 BY WILLIAM J. MATHESON. MATHESON WAS BORN IN IOWA AND CAME TO MIAMI IN 1890 TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND THE USES OF COCONUT GROVES. IN 1904 HE SENT HIS SON HUGH TO THE FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL (NOW RANSOM). YOUNG HUGH LIKED THE AREA SO MUCH HE ENCOURAGED HIS FATHER TO COME DOWN. BETWEEN 1906 AND 1911 THE ELDER MATHESON PURCHASED SEVERAL TRACTS OF LAND IN COCONUT GROVE AND CONSTRUCTED HIS FIRST HOME IN MIAMI, THE FOUR WAY LODGE. THE HOME WAS INTENDED TO BE ONLY A WINTER HOME BUT BY THIS TIME MATHESON WAS INVESTING HEAVILY IN SOUTH FLORIDA REAL ESTATE. HE PURCHASED OVER 1000 ACRES OF KEY BISCAYNE, WITH SON HUGH ON WHOM HE STARTED A COCONUT PLANTATION. HE ALSO BOUGHT A LARGE PARCEL OF LAND OFF OLD CUTLER RD IN SOUTH DADE COUNTY. AS MORE MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY BEGAN SPENDING LONGER PERIODS OF TIME IN COCONUT GROVE THE FAMILY NEEDED A LARGER HOUSE. THE "FOUR WAY LODGE" WAS SOLD IN 1916 TO ARTHUR CURTIS JAMES AND HIS WIFE HARRIET PARSON JAMES. JAMES WAS ANOTHER NORTH-MILLIONAIRE FROM THE NORTH. HE WAS AT ONE TIME CONSIDERED THE SECOND RICHEST MAN IN AMERICA. HIS GRANDFATHER DANIEL JAMES, MADE A VAST FORTUNE IN COPPER, SILVER AND GOLD MINING AS AN ASSOCIATE OF ANDREW SHEPHERD AND WILLIAM E. DODGE. A.C. JAMES ADDED TO THE FAMILY COFFER THROUGH THE WOMEN'S PALEFORD INDUSTRIES. AT THE TIME OF THE SALE THE FOUR WAY LODGE STOOD ON APPROXIMATELY 20 ACRES WHICH HAD BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

THE MATHESON FAMILY HAS FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN THE HISTORY OF MIAMI THROUGHOUT THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. WILLIAM AND HIS SON HUGH DONATED THE LAND FOR BOTH MATHESON HAMMOCK PARK AND CRANDON PARK ON KEY BISCAYNE, TO DADE COUNTY. HUGH MATHESON SERVED AS THE MAYOR OF COCONUT GROVE FROM 1922-1923, BEFORE IT WAS ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF MIAMI. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO POSITIONS OF STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT.